

Biofuel Development Authority (CBDA), Govt. of Chhattisgarh. The proposal has been recommended for funding by the Expert Committee subject to matching sharing (50%) coming from the State Government. The CBDA is also required to provide details of technical improvements to be incorporated in the system and address the issue of sustainability of the system subsequent to project completion. The proposal can only be processed further after the above clarifications are received from CBDA.

Concessions to Bio-Tech Industry

519. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Bio-Tech Development policy offering major concessions to the Industry, and the details of amounts of concessions released as on date, Bio-Tech Industry-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of Bayh-Dole Act of USA with regard to sharing the intellectual property generated through public-private Research and Development projects and whether by such Act our Government would benefit with regards to fast development of research in the field of Bio-Technology in India; and

(c) the reasons for delay in entering into Agreement with USA, to share the intellectual property with regard to Bio-Technology?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) There is no separate Bio-tech Development policy other than the Industrial policy. Major concessions allowed to the biotech industries are (i) exemption from the requirement of compulsory licensing, (ii) foreign direct investment (FDI) permitted upto 100%, and (iii) 150% weighted deduction permitted on Income Tax against R & D expenditure, and (iv) concessions on customs duty for import of equipment for biotech units registered with Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR).

(b) As per the Bayh Dole Act of USA, the universities and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) implementing R&D projects funded by Government Agencies have the option to retain title over the intellectual property generated through those projects, protect the inventions, commercialize the technologies generated and share the income arising

out of it with the inventors. In the event of a university or SME not opting for retaining the title, the concerned government funding agency steps in and takes necessary action for protection of intellectual property and commercialization of technologies. The Act encourages the universities and SMEs to protect the intellectual property and commercialize the technologies, thereby leading to economic development of the country. Such an Act in India will provide uniformity across ministries funding R&D projects and universities and research establishments implementing such projects so far as protection of intellectual property and sharing of revenue are concerned. The clarity in the Government policy will benefit the research in the field of biotechnology in India.

(c) There is no need for entering into an Agreement with USA to share the intellectual property with the inventors in India.

Falling standards of scientific and technological research

520. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a fall in the standards of scientific and technological research;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government are considering to increase the spending on R & D;

(c) whether Government are considering to rejuvenate science and technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Despite the limited resources available scientific and technological research has been on the upswing. India's scientific and technical research achievements in terms of research papers published and patent applications filed have increased significantly over the years. As per the Science Citation Index (SCf), India published 11,084 papers in 1995 which increased to 19,448 papers in 2005. Its share in terms of the total world output has increased from 1.6% in 1995 to 1.8% in 2005. In the context of patent applications filed by India, as per the World Intellectual